**Golden Quadrilateral Project**

182. SHRI J. CHITHARANAJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to concentrate on Golden Quadrilateral connecting the four major metropolitan towns putting the cross-country highway project on the back burner.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the features of the Golden Quadrilateral project, the estimated cost and proposed time to be taken for its completion and how this project is proposed to be financed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No. Sir.

(c) The National Highway Development Project comprising of the Golden Quadrilateral and the East-West and North-South Corridors is scheduled for completion in the year 2010 at an estimated cost of Rs. 54,000 crores subject to availability of resources. The project is proposed to be financed from budgetary grants, private participation, money raised by NHAI from the market and the funds made available from the cess being levied on petrol and diesel. While Government is giving high priority to the construction of Golden Quadrilateral, work on other National Highways is also being attended to on war footing. An amount of Rs. 880.41 crores has been earmarked for the development of the National Highways, other than falling on the Golden Quadrilateral.

**Allocation of Funds for Development of National Highways in Assam**

183. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation made by Government for construction, widening maintenance and repair of various National Highways in the State of Assam;

(b) the actual amount released upto 1998-99 for the State of Assam, and the allocation for 1999-2000; and

(c) the details of schemes and programmes fourmulated by Government for development of roads in Aassm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The following amount have been allocated to the State of Assam for National Highways during the last five years and the current financial year:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Year | Developmental work | Maintenance & Repair |
|---|---|---|
| 1994-95 | 1485.00 | 1678.23 |
| 1995-96 | 1650.00 | 1443.95 |
| 1996-97 | 1212.00 | 1006.87 |
| 1997-98 | 1821.00 | 1162.55 |
| 1998-99 | 2600.00 | 2815.51 |
| 1999-2000 | 3100.00 | 3199.44 |

(c) 42 road and 20 bridge schemes are included in Annual Plan 1999-2000 for the development of NHs in Assam at an estimated cost of Rs. 146.26 crore. In additoin to this, a provision of Rs. 435.00 crore has been made towards Ministry's share for Rail-cum-Road Bridge at Bogi beel across Brahamputra near Dibrugarh. So far, 4 NH improvement schemes costing Rs. 838.05 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Ministry.

In addition to this, special renewals have been sanctioned for a length of 145.50 km at an estimated cost of Rs. 3170.22 lakh for NHs in Assam.

**Development of Roads in Assam through Foreign Aid**

184. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loans received from the World Financial Institutions for construction and repair of various National Highways in the State of Assam during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of amount spent on the aforesaid projects